

Contact Numbers
Parish Office - 37522813
Parochial House - 37522802
Emergencies - 07596899031
St. Malachy's - 37510516
Cathedral - 37522638
SVP Help Line - 07733482604

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish

www.armaghparish.net

Email: armaghparishoffice@gmail.com



20th August 2023

Mass Times

St Patrick's Cathedral

Monday - Saturday: 10am

Saturday: 6.30pm

Sunday: 11am, 12.30pm & 5.30pm

St Malachy's Church

Tues - Fri: 8am

Mon, Wed & Fri: 7:30pm

Tues & Thurs: Prayer Service - 7:30pm

Sundays: 8am & 9.30am

Church of the Immaculate Conception

Saturday: 7:30pm

St Colmcille's Church

Sunday: 10am

Anniversaries & Month's Mind Masses

should be left in the Parish Office **no later than 12noon on the Thursday of the week before the anniversary is due to be remembered, this includes Saturday Anniversaries.** You can leave anniversaries in as early as you wish, but anniversaries left in after this time are considered **late**, & therefore there is **no guarantee** that they will be read out at Mass. We request that you leave your anniversary in as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

Parish Office open Mon-Fri 10am-3pm.

Baptisms Saturdays at 5.30pm in St Malachy's Church & 3pm in Church of St. Colmille, Knockaconey & Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tullysaran. All Baptisms are booked through the Parish Office.

Funerals are celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am (Mon-Sat) Please note there are no Sunday funerals.

Confessions in St Malachy's Church on Saturdays @ 12 noon. Confessions also on the Thursday before the first Friday of each month in St Malachy's Church @ 12noon.

Safeguarding Contact Maura 07895460797/armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com

Home visits If there is anyone who is seriously ill &/or confined to their home or if anyone would like to receive a home visit or a house blessing please leave details at the Parish Office.

Parish Records Help us keep our system up to date by letting us know your change of address! If you have changed address in the last couple of years or are planning to do so in the near future, please contact Claire in the Parish Office.

Weekly Parish Collection

30 July - £4786 and €135

6 August - £4,655 & €87.75

Sick & Retired Priests - £2210 & €20

13 August - £4755 & €80.95

The Priests Dues Collection will be taken up on the weekend of 2/3 September.

St Patrick's Cathedral Gift Shop

The Cathedral Gift Shop is open each day from 10.30am - 1.30pm and it stocks a wide variety of cards and gifts for special occasions including traditional Irish crafts and gifts and souvenir booklets on the Cathedral.

NEW candles, pictures & slate ornaments to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Cathedral are now on sale.

20th Sunday of the Year

Reflection

Dear Parishioners,

If it's a test, the Canaanite woman passes with flying colours! Her faith is impressive. When Jesus ignores her initial appeal, she tries again. And when he knocks her back, she replies with a witty retort: "Ah yes, sir; but even house dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table."

I always find this exchange amusing. At first reading, it seems that the woman has got one up on Jesus. He attempted to fob her off and her quick wit has caught him out. We can imagine him chuckling as he concedes "Woman, you have great faith".

But the exchange also makes me wonder: what was Jesus really up to? By the end of the conversation, he's clearly impressed with the woman's faith, her wit and her wisdom. But why the test? Why does he try to fob her off and why the dog reference?

In the Gospels, Jesus often tests his followers. He certainly tests Peter and the other disciples. He challenges them to think, and to come up with the right answers.

Perhaps he's testing not only the woman's faith, but also the faith of his disciples'. In using the analogy of a "house-dog", he may well be giving voice to the thoughts of his disciples. They would have little time for this Canaanite woman, a Gentile. They certainly would not have expected her to demonstrate such faith.

Perhaps it was an exchange that would come back to them at a later date as they expanded their mission to the Gentiles. Paul would later talk of God's mercy "to all mankind" and it's a far cry from house-dogs!

One can't but admire the persistence of the woman in today's Gospel. She's a reminder of people we encounter who have great faith and who make a deep impression on us. We might ask ourselves today: when have experiences of rejection in our own lives led to new possibilities? Where are the unfamiliar places that we must go in order to grow, to embrace new life and new experiences?

With every blessing
Rev Peter McAnenly Adm

St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh (1873 - 2023)

Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, we give thanks for the years of faith, hope and love that has been expressed within it.

Renew within our Cathedral your spirit of generosity, as we seek to follow in your footsteps and as we strive to do your will.

Teach us to love as you love and to listen as you listen.
Enlighten our minds and hearts so that we may see your plan and as we continue to journey in faith, following in the footsteps of Patrick, your Apostle.

Renew our Cathedral Church so that it may be a place of grace for all,
a place of growth for the young,
a place of refreshment for the old,
a place of renewal for families,
a place of healing for the broken,
a place of joy for the sorrowful,
a place of forgiveness for the sinner,
a place of strength for the virtuous

and a place of welcome for those who have been away.

We make our prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
in union with the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever, Amen.

Exhibition of Cathedral Artefacts in the Cardinal O'Fiaich Library and Archive to mark this 150th year. It will run until the end of August. Mon - Fri 10am - 4pm. All are welcome.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Molly Lennon, Helen O'Toole, Baby Joseph Gillespie White, James Kerr, Kevin Carlisle, Joan Bratton, Kathleen Quigley, Gerard Hutchinson & Patricia Hughes.

MONTHS MIND

We pray for: Gertie Bradshaw (21st) and Eithne McCreesh (22nd)



First Friday Fri 1 Sept is the first Friday of the month. There will be a Holy Hour in St Malachy's Church on the Friday evening from 8-9pm. Confessions - Thurs 31 Aug at 12noon.

Exhibition to mark 150th anniversary of the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral

Thanks to all the Primary Seven Pupils in the different schools in our parish for all their research & hard work for the exhibition in St. Patrick's Cathedral. People are encouraged to visit the & see the fruits of the children's work!

Dates for the diary! As we continue to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, an outdoor festival for families will take place in The Shambles Yard in Armagh on **Thurs 24th August** from 5 -7pm. It will include music & a wide range of entertainment for families throughout the diocese & beyond. Afterwards, a special Liturgy/Prayer Service will take place at 7.30pm in St Patrick's Cathedral & representatives from different groups & parishes across the diocese will be involved.

On the morning of **Sun 27th Aug** at 11am, Cardinal Timothy Dolan (Archbishop of New York) will celebrate a special Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral. During the Mass we will give praise & thanks for the faith & worship that has been expressed within the Cathedral since it was dedicated 150 years ago.

All are invited to these special events, as we mark this significant milestone in the history of our Cathedral.

Spire of Faith & Hope – Celebrating 150 years of St Patrick's Cathedral

An evening of Music with Eilis Fox. Also featuring St Patrick's Cathedral Choir & Catherine Grimley Hughes. Fri 29th Sept at 7.30pm. Tickets available by scanning the QR Code.



Hike the Reek The climb of Croagh Patrick which took place in June raised £14,335 and €430. Well done to all who took part on the day and all who helped generate the funds which will help support St Patrick's Cathedral Fundraising Campaign.

Thanks to Deacon Brian We offer our thanks to Deacon Brian McNally who has been assisting in our parish over the last few weeks. Deacon Brian is from Cookstown and he's studying for the Priesthood in The Beda College, Rome. We wish him well as he returns to Rome in the coming weeks.

Matt Talbot Mass Matt was freed from addiction through Mass, Adoration and the Rosary. The Matt Talbot Prayer Society prays daily & specifically for those enrolled to be freed from addiction through Matt Talbot's intercession. The next Mass is scheduled for Mon 4 Sept at 7.30pm in St Malachy's Church. If you would like to enrol a name in the Matt Talbot Society please visit the website www.matttalbotprayersociety.com

Diocesan Clerical Changes In the recent changes for the Archdiocese of Armagh, Archbishop Martin has appointed Fr Peter McAnenly as Parish Priest of the Parish of Termonmaguirc (Carrickmore) and Fr Barry Matthews as Administrator of St Patrick's Cathedral Parish. He has also appointed Fr David Nugent as Curate in the Cathedral Parish. **PLEASE NOTE:** Fr Peter will celebrate his last Mass as Administrator of the Parish in St Patrick's Cathedral on Sun 3rd

Sept at 11am. There will be a cup of tea for all after the 11am Mass in the Synod Hall.

Seeking to learn more about your faith

Why not consider our Theology Programme? It runs for two years, one evening per week & two weekend modules in the year. It's accredited by St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth. No educational entry requirements, just an interest in learning about God. Assessment is based on written assignments at the end of each module; there are no written exams. The programme starts on 12th September. To know more, contact Milanda at 0035342 9351316 or milanda@parishandfamily.ie

Novena to St Teresa of Calcutta A special Novena to St Teresa of Calcutta will take place at the 10am Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral, beginning Mon 28th Aug. It concludes on the saints Feast Day (Tues 5 Sept)

Vocations – Like Christ, we must never grow despondent or abandon the struggle and opportunity to live and proclaim the faith. Perhaps God is calling you to spread that Word through a Church vocation. What a gift it is to share the Word. If you think God is calling you to priesthood, call Fr Barry Matthews (Vocations Director) or any priest.

Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus, send labourers into your fields, which are awaiting holy apostles, saintly priests, heroic missionaries and dedicated sisters and brothers. Enkindle in the hearts of men and women the spark of a vocation. Grant that Christian families may desire to give your Church, helpers in the work of tomorrow. Amen.

Charles Wood Summer School The 30th anniversary of the Charles Wood Summer School will take place in Armagh from Sun 20th – Sun 27th August. There will be a packed programme of events during the course of the week www.charleswoodsummerschool.org/

Weddings in Armagh Parish Best wishes to those couples who are planning to celebrate their marriage in the Parish in the coming months. Couples planning to get married in the Parish later this year or next year, should ensure that they have booked their Church and made contact with their priest to be celebrant on the day. Couples should also ensure that they have booked a Pre Marriage Course with Accord. All enquiries in relation to weddings can be made at Armagh Parish Office.

The Dedication of St. Patrick's Cathedral

Copies of a brief history on the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, by Jack O'Hare are now on sale in Cathedral Shop

Our Heritage – Our Cathedral Fundraising Campaign

Archbishop Eamon Martin has launched a special Fundraising Campaign, to support the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the magnificent St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh. People are being invited to become a regular donor as a "Friend of St Patrick's Cathedral" or to make a one off contribution to mark this 150th year.

Recently, the Archbishop said "Looking ahead, we aim to secure a regular support and enhancement income of at least £200,000 per annum for this unique building. We are conscious that this is a challenging time for fundraising, but as we emerge from the Covid pandemic, we move forward convinced that the people of today and tomorrow need more than ever the light of faith and hope".

In recent weeks, we have had the first phase of fundraising within our parish and in the coming weeks, it's hoped that the fundraising will be extended more widely and everyone will have an opportunity to contribute. Archbishop Martin said at the launch: "Join us as we preserve the treasured landmark and sacred space of St Patrick's Cathedral, for generations to come and help us to ensure that our Cathedral remains a living centre of prayer, tranquillity, and renewal for the next 150 years and beyond".

Further information about the Fundraising Campaign is available from Armagh Parish Office (028/048 37522813) or by emailing [Caroline at armaghparishfinance@gmail.com](mailto:Caroline@armaghparishfinance@gmail.com).

Volunteers needed for SVP Armagh The Vincents (SVP) shop located in Scotch street urgently need more volunteers to help out in the shop!!! If you have just a few hours a week to give, please contact 02837788040 or email armagh.vincents@svpni.co.uk

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society the opening Mass for the year will be held on Wednesday, 6 September in St.Malachy's Church at 7.30pm immediately followed by the Rosary and short meeting in St. Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane. All are welcome to join us in praying for Vocations to the Priesthood particularly as this year has been designated to promoting Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood entitled, "Taking the Risk for Christ".

Armagh Pro Life Prayer Group would like to thank the Knights of Columbanus for their kind Donation towards our bus to the Rally for Life in Dublin.

Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group recommences on Wed 23rd August with Holy Mass and Blessing of the Brown Scapular in the Synod Hall at 8pm. All welcome.

Cana – Retreat for Couples Rediscover the meaning and fun in your marriage, in your family life and in your commitment to each other. Take time to share with each other as a couple and with other couples. Contact Brian and Lisa at 041 6851563

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service is recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. Successful applicants will receive professional training & will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice. Contact Deirdre at 07980 898399

ALONE – Provider of Services to Older People Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to older people once a week? Alone are seeking volunteers in this area. Full training and support will be provided. If interested or for more info contact Fiona on 086 1366539 or fiona.boyle@alone.ie

Prayer by Telephone The Sisters of Mercy in "Bethany" Dundalk welcome any one who may wish to request prayer, especially during these difficult times. All enquiries are confidential. Tel. 0035342 9331602 (9am – 9pm daily)

Blessing of School Bags for the new school year! Lord we thank you for your goodness to all your children. Be with these children throughout this new school year. May your blessing be upon these schoolbags, which the children will carry to and from school each day. Watch over the children in their coming and their going; keep them safe always; help them to be kind; bless their learning and their play. Enfold them at all times in your love. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.